

Attorney Docket No.: F7420(V)
Serial No.: 10/635,711
Filed: August 6, 2003
Confirmation No.: 1913

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

A Notice of Appeal was filed in the above application on February 6, 2006. The Office indicated on May 22, 2006, prior to expiration of the period (with extensions) for filing the brief, that the application was abandoned. Therefore, a petition to withdraw the holding of abandonment was filed on June 6, 2006. Since no word has been received from the PTO concerning the petition, on the assumption that the application is still alive, an RCE and request for a five month extension of time accompanies this amendment. Applicants would appreciate favorable consideration to refunding at least a portion of the extension fee since it has been unclear what action Applicant should take pending a decision in the petition.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 2 of this paper.